

The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

Service Score Results:

Baseline

SPEP™ ID and Contact Time: 0349-T01

Agency/Program Name: Clear Vision Residential Treatment Services, Inc.

Service Name: Individual Counseling

Cohort Total: 18

Cohort Time Frame: Youth that began the service on/after January 1, 2021 and ended on/before April 30, 2023

Referral County(s): Clinton (1); Dauphin (2); Lehigh (1); Luzerne (3); Lycoming (3); Mifflin (2); Monroe (1); Montgomery (2); Schuylkill (3)

Feedback Report Delivery: August 29, 2023

County/Probation Officer(s) Involved: Bill Keim and Christine Anderton - Berks County Juvenile Probation

Ayla Allen - Mifflin County Juvenile Probation

EPIS SIS(s): Dawn Karoscik, Lisa Freese, and Lisa Fetzer

The Clear Vision Residential Facility is a 25 bed staff secure residential service licensed by the Department of Human Service and is fully staffed 24 hours per day. Clear Vision provides care for adolescent females, adjudicated delinquent or dependent, who require placement services outside the home for social, emotional, and behavioral problems. While all referrals are evaluated/interviewed on an individual basis, appropriate adolescent females should be between the ages of 13-19, able to live in a staff-secured environment and pose no serious threat to themselves or to others. Clear Vision also accepts girls who are pregnant. All residents are required to attend school managed by BLaST IU17, through the public school system of Montgomery Area School District, Lycoming County. While the students focus on education, numerous services are incorporated into the treatment plan. Clear Vision is a goal-oriented program (not a level system). Adolescent females who have a violent assault history, severe mental health issues, or who are actively psychotic typically would not be appropriate candidates. Life Skills Training, Family and Individual Counseling, Group Counseling, and Thinking for a Change are a few treatment modalities utilized.

This report focuses on Individual Counseling. The individual counseling service offers daily sessions ranging from 5 minutes to 20 minutes for youth. Each session is meticulously logged, documenting the discussions and activities that occur within the community. In addition to the primary counselors, there are two additional counselors who work as part of a team.

One key aspect of the counseling service is to work with youth in setting goals, developing plans, and addressing various issues they may be facing. The counselors actively engage with the youth, creating Individualized Service Plan (ISP) goals. They also participate in team meetings, which involve professionals from neuropsychology, Juvenile Probation Office/Child and Youth Services (JPO/CYS) referral sources, and other community support sources.

Another important aspect of the counseling service is to provide a platform for youth to discuss specific topics or issues they may be experiencing in class. The counselors assist the youth in brainstorming solutions and navigating through challenges. They also ensure that homework is submitted in the appropriate location and teach techniques for taking a 5-minute break to cool down when necessary.

The counseling service follows a team approach, enabling the counselors to collaborate effectively and provide comprehensive support to the youth.

The four characteristics of a service found to be the most strongly related to reducing recidivism:

1. **SPEP™ Service Type:** Individual Counseling

Based on the meta-analysis, is there a qualifying supplemental service? No

If so, what is the Service Type? There is no qualifying supplemental service

Was the supplemental service provided? N/A Total Points Possible for this Service Type: 10

Total Points Received: 10 Total Points Possible: 35

2. **Quality of Service:** Research has shown that programs that deliver service with high quality are more likely to have a positive impact on recidivism reduction. Monitoring of quality is defined by existence of written protocol, staff training, staff supervision, and how drift from service delivery is addressed.

Total Points Received: 5 Total Points Possible: 20

3. Amount of Service: Score was derived by calculating the total number of weeks and hours received by each youth in the service. The amount of service is measured by the target amounts of service for the SPEP™ service categorization. Each SPEP™ service type has varying amounts of duration and dosage. Youth should receive the targeted amounts to have the greatest impact on recidivism reduction. Targeted duration and dosage for this service is 25 weeks, 30 hours.

<u>10</u>	youth in the cohort of	<u>18</u>	received the targeted Duration or Number of Weeks for a total	<u>4</u>	points
<u>7</u>	youth in the cohort of	<u>18</u>	of received the targeted Dosage or Number of Hours for a total of	<u>2</u>	points

Total Points Received: 6 **Total Points Possible:** 20

4. Youth Risk Level: The risk level score is compiled by calculating the total % of youth that score above low risk, and the total % of youth who score above moderate risk to reoffend based on the results of the YLS. The Risk Levels of Youth admitted to the service were: 1 low risk, 6 moderate risk, 10 , high risk, and 0 very high risk.

<u>16</u>	youth in the cohort of	<u>17</u>	are Moderate, High, Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of	<u>10</u>	points
<u>10</u>	youth in the cohort of	<u>17</u>	are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of	<u>13</u>	points

Total Points Received: 23 **Total Points Possible:** 25

Basic SPEP™ Score: 44 total points received out of 100 points. Compares service to any other type of SPEP™ therapeutic service. (e.g. individual counseling compared to cognitive behavioral therapy, social skills training, mentoring, etc.)

Note: Services with scores greater than or equal to 50 show the service is having a positive impact on recidivism reduction.

Program Optimization Percentage: 59% This percentage compares the service to the same service types found in the research. (e.g. individual counseling compared to all other individual counseling services included in the research.)

The SPEP™ and Performance Improvement

The intended use of the SPEP™ is to optimize the effectiveness of reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. The service could improve its capacity for recidivism reduction by addressing the following recommendations:

1. Regarding Quality of Service Delivery:

a. Written Protocol:

- i. Create a manual that explains the process of creating an Individual Service Plan (ISP) and how this drives the service.
- ii. Identify in writing youth most appropriate for the service.
- iii. Ensure that there is consistent documentation of case notes for each session of the service.
- iv. Include in the manual the process of reviewing and updating the ISP that is occurring every 3 months.
- v. Review and update the manual at pre-determined timeframes and document when this occurs.

b. Staff Training:

- i. Create a policy that explains the specific training required to deliver the service and document when the training is completed.

c. Staff Supervision:

- i. Create a mechanism that ensures consistent usage of the case review that is occurring every 2 weeks.
- ii. Provide staff with written feedback that occurs from the case reviews.
- iii. Performance reviews or evaluations should include a reference to the quality of service delivery specific to the delivery of Individual Counseling.

d. Organizational Response to Drift:

- i. Create a policy that identifies and addresses departure from fidelity and quality of service delivery not just personnel sanctions for failure to adhere to job responsibilities.
- ii. Document when the policy is utilized or reviewed.
- iii. Include a specific set of corrective action steps should drift from service delivery occur.
- iv. Create a mechanism to collect data on the effectiveness of Individual Counseling.
- v. Utilize the data to adapt or improve service delivery.

2. Regarding Amount of Service:

- a. While the population of Clear Vision has been dominantly child welfare referrals more recently, it is recommended that admission paperwork and staff testimony during court reviews for delinquent females, include language supporting the targeted number of hours and weeks that an individual counseling service should be, as supported by research, 25 weeks and 30 hours.